

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified Application is respectfully requested. Claims 1-24 are in the case. No amendments have been made to the Claims. The Specification has been amended. The Drawings have been amended.

Regarding the objection to the drawings, Figure 1 has been amended to include the legend --(Prior Art)--, as kindly suggested by the Examiner. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the objection has been overcome. Wherefore reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

Regarding the objection to the Specification, the Abstract of the Disclosure has been amended, and appropriate section headings have been added, pursuant to the Examiner's kind suggestions. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the objection has been overcome. Wherefore reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication of allowability of Claims 3, 4, 9-11 and 14 if rewritten in independent form. In view of the remarks below, applicant respectfully declines at this time to so re-write these claims. In view of those remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to those claims associated with this indication of allowability.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 1, 2, 6-8, 19 and 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Chang et al., this rejection is respectfully traversed. Independent Claim 1 recites a module including various elements in combination to afford full duplex in VOIP and computer system connected to a network. Independent Claim 20 recites a computer having a module, and including various elements in combination, similar to those recited in Claim 1, to afford full duplex in VOIP and computer system connected to a network.

The Chang et al. reference fails to show or suggest various of those elements of the invention as set forth in Claim 1 and Claim 20. For example, regarding the assignment set forth in the above-identified Office Action, first, the interface 38 ("1st interface means") is not for passing data to and from the network 19, as recited in Claims 1 and 20. Rather, it is for passing data to and from the PC 14 via a data port 32. The PC 14 may then pass such data to and from the network 19, but the interface 38 is not involved in that transfer of data. Second, while the jack 30 ("2nd restricted interface means") may pass data to and from the PSTN 18 ("2nd data source"), the DTMF interface 39 ("1st restricted interface means") is not for passing data to and from the 2nd data source, as recited in Claims 1 and 20. Rather, DTMF interface 39 merely monitors telephone 11 for predetermined sequences of DTMF digits and reports detection of such sequences to the interface 38. Third, while the DTMF interface 39 ("1st restricted interface means") may transmit data to the interface 38 ("1st interface means"), it is not arranged to transmit data from the 1st interface means to the 1st restricted interface means, as recited by Claims 1 and 20. As mentioned above, DTMF interface 39 merely monitors telephone 11 for predetermined sequences of DTMF digits and reports detection of such sequences to the interface 38. Thus, the reference to Chang et al. fails to show or suggest the invention as set forth in Claim 1 and in Claim 20. The other art of record is even less relevant.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that for the above reasons independent Claims 1 and 20 are allowable over Chang et al. and, indeed, over all of the art of record, whether considered individually or in any combination. Claims 2, 6-8, 19 and 21-23 all depend, either directly or indirectly, from one of Claims 1 and 20, and so are allowable as well, as well as for the additional limitations found therein. Wherefore reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of Claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Chang et al. in view of Preiss et al., this rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 5 depends from independent Claim 1, the reasons for the allowability of which over Chang et al. are presented above. The

reference to Preiss et al. fails to cure the deficiencies of Chang et al., it being merely cited for the first and second interface means being MACs. The other art of record is even less relevant.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that for the above reasons independent Claim 1 is allowable over Chang et al., Preiss et al. and, indeed, over all of the art of record, whether considered individually or in any combination. Claim 5 depends from Claim 1, and so is allowable as well, as well as for the additional limitations found therein. Wherefore reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Chang et al. in view of Jones, this rejection is respectfully traversed. Claims 12 and 13 both depend indirectly from independent Claim 1, the reasons for the allowability of which over Chang et al. are presented above. The reference to Jones fails to cure the deficiencies of Chang et al., it being merely cited to show a programmable logic device including a plurality of FIFO memory devices. The other art of record is even less relevant.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that for the above reasons independent Claim 1 is allowable over Chang et al., Jones and, indeed, over all of the art of record, whether considered individually or in any combination. Claims 12 and 13 depend indirectly from Claim 1, and so are allowable as well, as well as for the additional limitations found therein. Wherefore reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 15-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Chang et al. in view of Rabenko et al., this rejection is respectfully traversed. Claims 15-18 all depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 1, the reasons for the allowability of which over Chang et al. are presented above. The reference to Rabenko et al. fails to cure the deficiencies of Chang et al., it being merely cited to show a prioritization circuit for providing priority to voice packets. The other art of record is even less relevant.

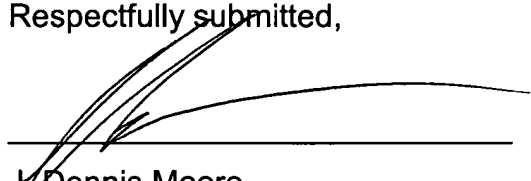
Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that for the above reasons independent Claim 1 is allowable over Chang et al., Rabenko et al. and, indeed, over all of the art of record, whether considered individually or in any combination. Claims 15-18 depend indirectly from Claim 1, and so are allowable as well, as well as for the additional limitations found therein. Wherefore reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims recite the patentably distinguishing features of the invention and that, taken together with the above remarks, the present application is now in proper form for allowance. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, and allowance of the claims are requested at an early date.

While it is believed that the instant amendment places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

To the extent necessary, the Applicants petition for an Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. Please charge any fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees to the Deposit Account No. 20-0668 of Texas Instruments Incorporated.

Respectfully submitted,



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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Please amend the Drawings as follows:

In Figure 1, add the legend --(Prior Art)--, as shown in the accompanying replacement Sheet 1 of the Drawings.

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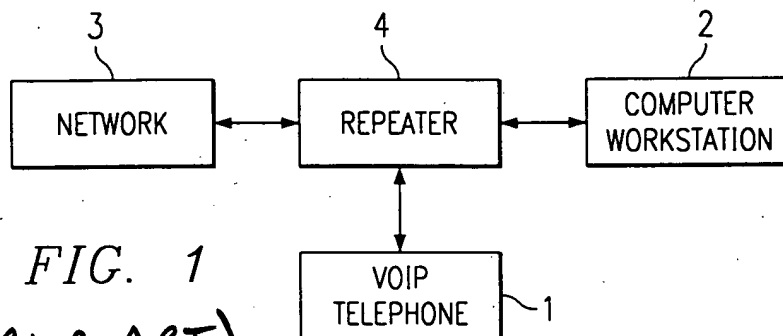


FIG. 1
(PRIOR ART)

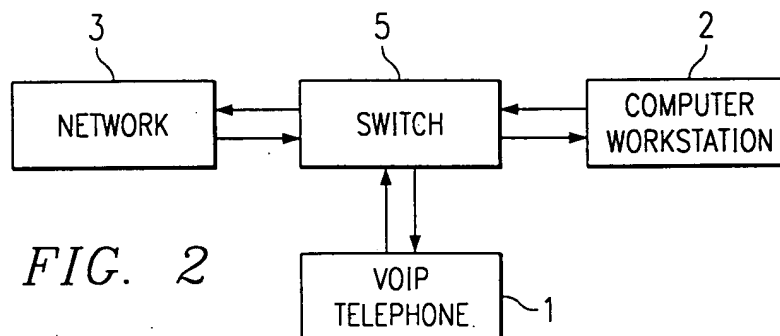


FIG. 2

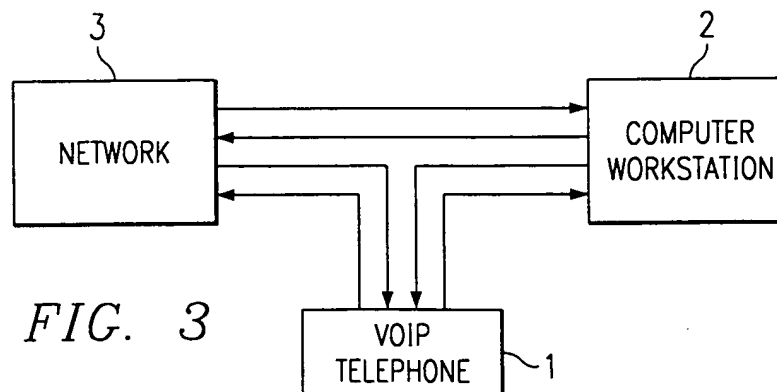


FIG. 3

